



The Wine Cabinet

“Six Regions of Pinot Noir”

March Cabinet Pack!

History of Pinot Noir

The history of Pinot Noir tells us that it was named after the noble Pinot family who date back to the Roman era. The history of Pinot Noir also shows us that Pinot Noir Grapes were being cultivated in the Burgundy region of France when the Romans invaded Gaul in the first century A.D.

Some say the survival of Pinot Noir Wines actually came down to catholic monks who enhanced its awareness by using it in their sacraments. As the years passed the monks began improving their Pinot Noir wines with lots of experimentation and even more patience. By the sixth century barrels of Pinot Noir wine were being sent to the pope. But, this was disrupted in 1789 because of the French revolution. The seized vineyards were redistributed to surviving family members and were independently run.

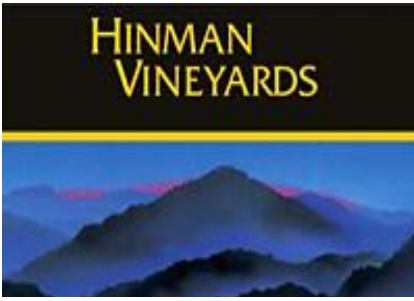
This history of Pinot Noir in America dates back to the 1930s on the coast of California and the Napa valley. Pinot Noir wines main use up until the 1980s was for making sparkling wines. And in a quest to produce a better Pinot Noir wine, makers moved further north to Oregon where the Pinot Noir grape has been said to have found its home away from home and is now the most widely planted grape in Oregon.

A great Pinot Noir wine will create a lasting impression on the palate and its aroma can be intense, ripe grape. It is typically a rich, full bodied wine, but not too heavy. Pinot Noir wines are not high in alcohol and are neither acidic nor tannic. Most people agree that the most appealing quality of Pinot Noir is its soft velvety texture. This has been true throughout the history of Pinot Noir and is still true today.



Cono Sur 2008, Chile

A lively and fresh purple red color, this is a voluptuous pinot noir with rich fruit notes of cherry, raspberry, plum and strawberry -a red fruit party! Enhanced by subtle smoked hints, other notes add flowers -violets- and a subdued earthiness. Balanced and new world styled, this is a wine of personality and elegance. Sexy, pure and simple, it shows great varietal character in a young and refreshing approach.

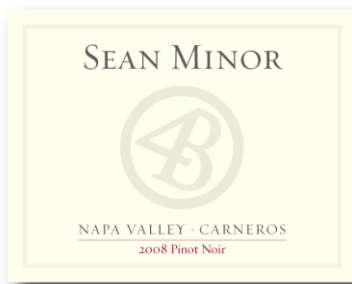


Hinman Winery 2008, Oregon

Packed with bright, friendly berry flavors. It's clean, has a fruit-oriented finish, and goes down very easily. Light, pleasant and elegant with a delicately silky body, this wine shows bright cherry, cola, and oak flavors.

Caldaro Pinot Nero 2007, Alto Adige Italy

The Caldaro estate sits in one of the most beautiful corners of the Dolomites, overlooking Caldaro Lake, in the Alto Adige region of Italy. The Pinot Nero is regarded unanimously as one of the most valuable and high-quality of red wines. With a dazzling garnet red color, its aromas - reminiscent of forest fruits from blackberries through to blackcurrants.



Sean Minor 2008 Carneros CA

This Carneros Pinot Noir is medium-bodied with blueberry, cherry, plum and light toast flavors. On entry, the wine displays blue fruit characters that are balanced with the lingering spicy/earthy notes. The vanilla and toast nuances integrate well with the silky round tannins which evolve into a lengthy finish.

Greg Norman 2008, Santa Barbara CA

This Santa Barbara Pinot Noir has bright aromas of ripe black cherry, floral notes and subtle earthy characteristics of forest floor and mushroom. The wine's palate is fruit forward with pronounced flavors of cherry and tamarind. The flavor of the wine is also highlighted by sweet oak and vanilla notes. The wine is well rounded with a smooth mouthfeel and lingering silky tannins.



Josephine Dubois Grande Reserve 2007, France

Delicious, full of sweet, ripe cherry, blackberry and spice. Clean, simple Pinot Noir with fresh fruit and notes of blackberry, cassis and a hint of chocolate. This pinot noir is dense and concentrated with a long, cherry-infused finish. Great by itself.